IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel Claims 21-30 and add new Claims 31-39:

--31. An aqueous system comprising:

(A) a component selected from the group consisting of hydrolysis-sensitive fungicidal active compounds, hydrolysis-sensitive bactericidal active compounds, hydrolysis-sensitive insecticidal active compounds, and mixtures thereof, wherein the active compounds have a functional group N-S-CCl_2X, wherein X represents halogen, a C_1-C_4 alkyl, or a halogen-substituted C_1-C_4 alkyl, and

(B) one or more binders having a pH $\leq$ 7 selected from the group consisting of (i) alkyd resins based on vegetable oils and (ii) acrylate dispersions.

32. An aqueous system according to Claim 31, wherein the binder has a pH $\leq$ 5.

33. An aqueous system according to Claim 31, wherein the binder has a pH $\leq$ 3.

34. An aqueous system according to Claim 31, wherein the active compounds are selected from the group consisting of folpet, captan, captafol, dichlofluanid, tolylfluanid, fluorfolpet, and mixtures thereof.

35. A method for stabilizing a component selected from the group consisting of hydrolysis-sensitive fungicidal active compounds, hydrolysis-sensitive bactericidal active compounds, hydrolysis-sensitive insecticidal active compounds, and mixtures thereof, wherein the active compounds have a functional group N-S-CCl_2X, wherein X represents halogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, or halogen-substituted C_1-C_4 alkyl,in an aqueous system,

the process comprising incorporating into the aqueous system one or more binders having a pH $\leq$ 7 and selected from the group consisting of (i) alkyd resins based on vegetable oils and (ii) acrylate dispersions, and thereby stabilizing the component.

36. A method according to Claim 35, wherein the binder has a pH $\leq$ 5.

37. A method for protecting an aqueous system against microbial infestation comprising incorporating into the aqueous system

(A) a component selected from the group consisting of hydrolysis-sensitive fungicidal active compounds, hydrolysis-sensitive fungicidal active compounds, hydrolysis-sensitive bactericidal active compounds, hydrolysis-sensitive insecticidal active compounds, and mixtures thereof, wherein the active compounds have a functional group N-S-CCl_2X, wherein X represents halogen, a C_1-C_4 alkyl, or a halogen-substituted C_1-C_4 alkyl, and

(B) one or more binders having a pH $\leq$ 7 and selected from the group consisting of (i) alkyd resins based on vegetable oils and (ii) acrylate dispersions, and thereby stabilizing the system.

38. A method according to Claim 37, wherein the binder has a pH $\leq$ 5.

39. A binder comprising:

(A) a component selected from the group consisting of (i) alkyd resins based on vegetable oils and (ii) acrylate dispersions and having a pH $\leq$ 7 and

(B) a component selected from the group consisting of hydrolysis-sensitive fungicidal active compounds, hydrolysis-sensitive fungicidal active compounds, hydrolysis-sensitive bactericidal active compounds, hydrolysis-sensitive insecticidal active compounds, and mixtures thereof, wherein the active compounds have a functional group N-S-CCl_2X, wherein X represents halogen, a C_1-C_4 alkyl, or a halogen-substituted C_1-C_4 alkyl.--

IN THE ABSTRACT:

An abstract is enclosed herewith on a separate page.